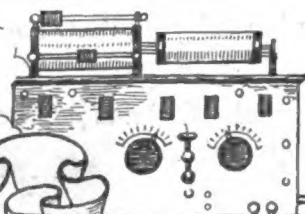


APR 22 1912

The AEROGRAM



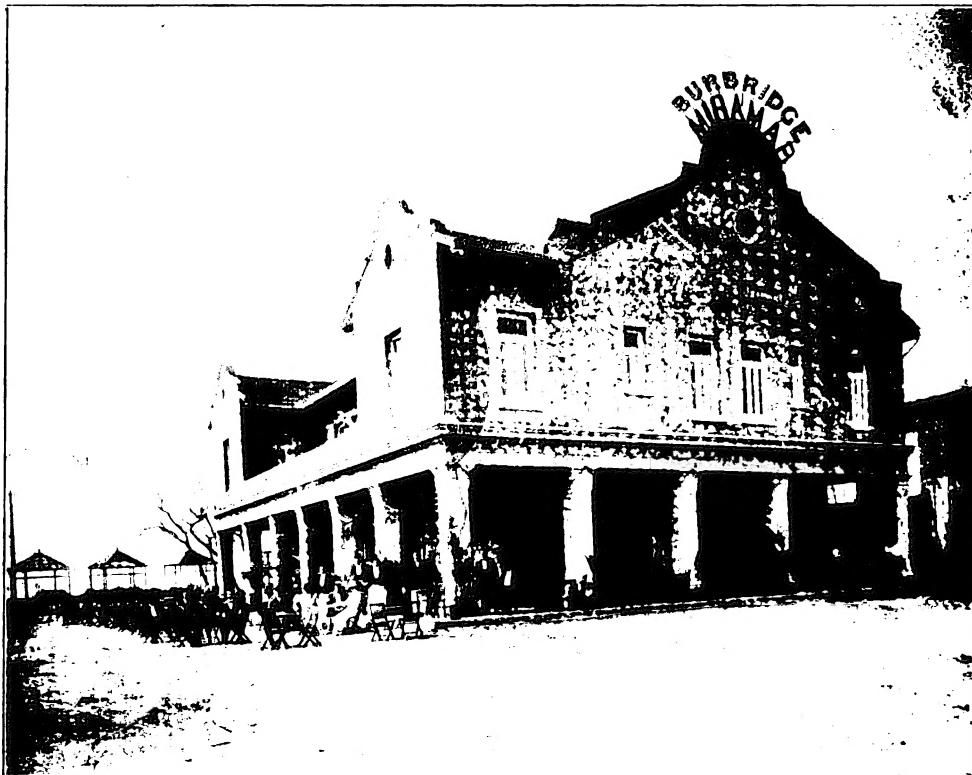
MARCH, 1912

-J. E. JACKSON-

“BURBRIDGE”

Hotel Miramar, Habana, Cuba

In Vedado on the Almendares River by the Sea



¶ *French and Spanish cuisine. Unexcelled service a la carte. Select your own live fish from the aquarium.*

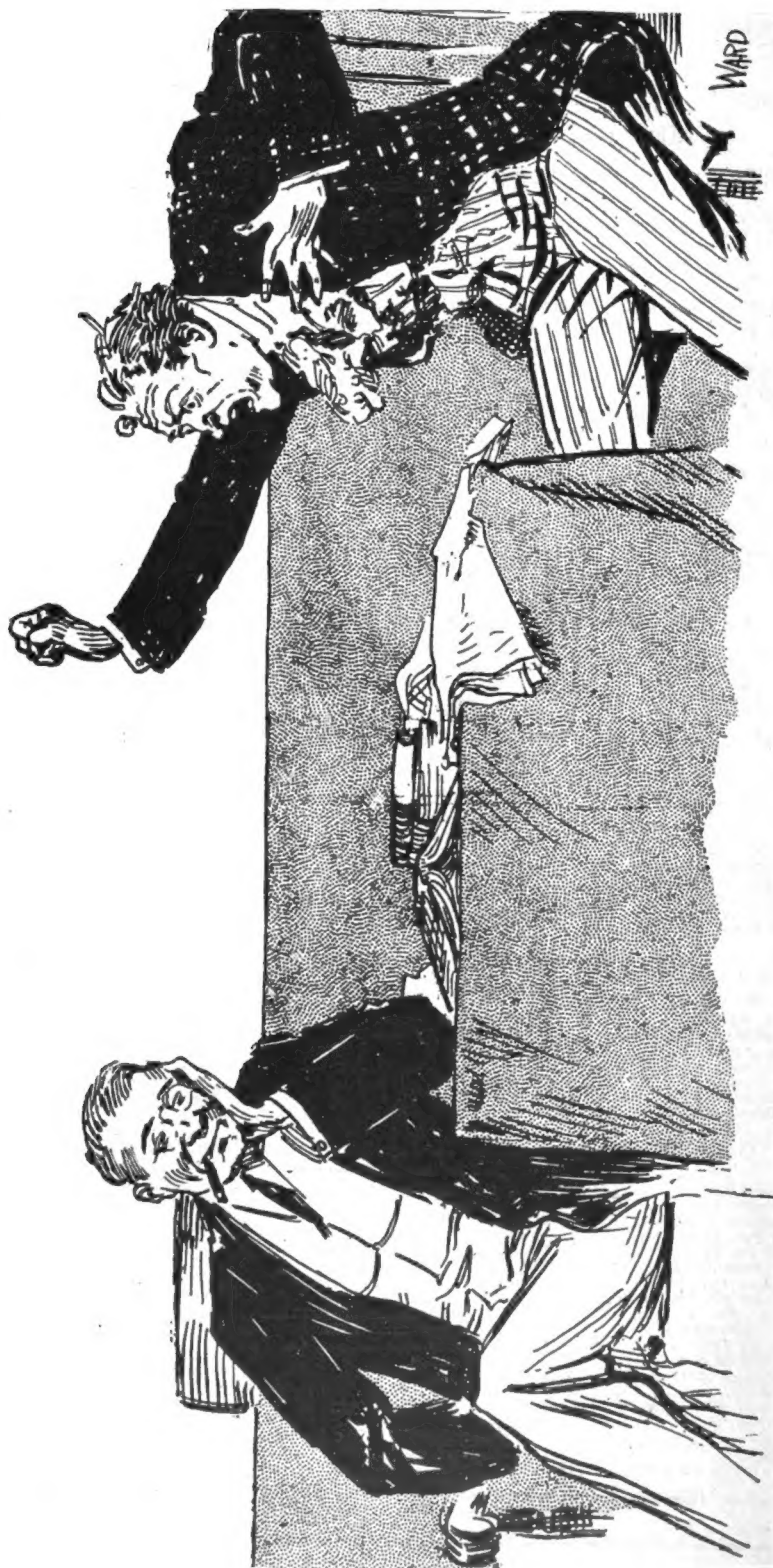
¶ *Famous for arroz con pollo.*

¶ *Elegant rooms with bath, salt and fresh water, hot and cold.*

¶ *Music, singing and moving pictures every night in the Miramar garden.*

¶ *This hotel is the most select and picturesque resort in Havana; must be seen to be appreciated.*

W. T. BURBRIDGE, Prop.



"Druggists!" he exclaimed with disgust. "Mystery! Blood! 'The Crimson Cord.' Daggers! Clews!"

THE AEROGRAM

VOLUME VII

Copyright, 1912—Aerogram Publishing Company.

NUMBER 3

THE ADVENTURE OF THE CRIMSON CORD

By Ellis Parker Butler



HAD not seen Perkins for six months or so, and things were dull. I was beginning to tire of sitting indolently in my office, with nothing to do but clip coupons from my bonds. Money is good enough in its way, but it is not interesting unless it is doing something lively—doubling itself or getting lost. What I wanted was excitement—an adventure—and I knew that if I could find Perkins, I could have both. A scheme is a business adventure, and Perkins was the greatest schemer in or out of Chicago.

Just then Perkins walked into my office.

"Perkins," I said, as soon as he had arranged his feet comfortably on my desk, "I'm tired. I'm restless. I have been wishing for you for a month. I want to go into a big scheme, and make a lot of new, up-to-date cash. I'm sick of this tame, old cash that I have. It isn't interesting. No cash is interesting except the coming cash."

"I'm with you," said Perkins; "what is your scheme?"

"I have none," I said sadly. "That is just my trouble. I have sat here for days trying to think of a good, practical scheme, but I can't. I don't believe there is an unworked scheme in the whole wide, wide world."

Perkins waved his hand.

"My boy," he exclaimed, "there are millions! You've thousands of 'em right here in your office! You're falling over them, sitting on them, walking on them! Schemes? Everything is a scheme. Everything has money in it!"

I shrugged my shoulders.

"Yes," I said, "for you. But you are a genius."

"Genius, yes," Perkins said, smiling cheerfully, "else why Perkins the Great? Why Perkins the Originator? Why the Great and Only Perkins of Portland?"

"All right," I said, "what I want is for your genius to get busy. I'll give you a week to work up a good scheme."

Perkins pushed back his hat, and brought his feet to the floor with a smack.

"Why the delay?" he queried. "Time is money. Hand me something from your desk."

I looked in my pigeonholes, and pulled from one a small ball of string. Perkins took it in his hand, and looked at it with great admiration.

"What is it?" he asked seriously.

"That," I said, humoring him, for I knew something great would be evolved from his wonderful brain, "is a ball of red twine I bought at the ten-cent store. I bought it last Saturday. It was sold to me by a freckled young lady in a white shirtwaist. I paid—"

I looked at the ball of twine curiously. I tried to see something remarkable in it. I couldn't. It remained a simple ball of red twine, and I told Perkins so.

"The difference," declared Perkins, "between mediocrity and genius! Mediocrity always sees red twine; genius sees a ball of Crimson Cord!"

He leaned back in his chair, and looked at me triumphantly. He folded his arms as if he had settled the matter.

His attitude seemed to say that he had made a fortune for us. Suddenly he reached forward, and, grasping my scissors, began snipping off small lengths of the twine.

"The Crimson Cord!" he ejaculated. "What does it suggest?"

I told him that it suggested a parcel from the druggist's. I had often seen just such twine about a druggist's parcel.

Perkins sniffed disdainfully.

"Druggists?" he exclaimed with disgust. "Mystery! Blood! 'The Crimson Cord.' Daggers! Murder! Strangling! Clews! 'The Crimson Cord!'"

He motioned wildly with his hands, as if the possibilities of the phrase were quite beyond his power of expression.

"It sounds like a book," I suggested.

"Great!" cried Perkins. "A novel! The novel! Think of the words 'A Crimson Cord' in blood-red letters six feet high on a white ground!" He pulled his hat over his eyes, and spread out his hands; and I think he shuddered.

"Think of 'A Crimson Cord,'" he muttered, "in blood-red letters on a ground of dead, sepulchral black, with a crimson cord writhing through them like a serpent."

He sat up suddenly, and threw one hand in the air.

"Think," he cried, "of the words in black on white, with a crimson cord drawn taut across the whole ad.!"

He beamed upon me.

"The cover of the book," he said quite calmly, "will be white,—virgin, spotless white,—with black lettering, and the cord in crimson. With each copy we will give a crimson silk cord for a book-mark. Each copy will be done up in a white box and tied with crimson cord."

He closed his eyes and tilted his head upward.

"A thick book," he said, "with deckle edges and pictures by Christy. No, pictures by Pyle. Deep, mysterious pictures! Shadows and gloom! And wide, wide margins. And a gloomy foreword. One-fifty per copy, at all booksellers.

Perkins opened his eyes and set his hat straight with a quick motion of

his hand. He arose and pulled on his gloves.

"Where are you going?" I asked.

"Contracts!" he said. "Contracts for advertising! We must boom 'The Crimson Cord!' We must boom her big!"

He went out and closed the door. Presently, when I supposed him well on the way down town, he opened the door and inserted his head.

"Gilt tops," he announced. "One million copies the first impression!"

And then he was gone.

A week later Chicago and the greater part of the United States was placarded with "The Crison Cord." Perkins did his work thoroughly and well, and great was the interest in the mysterious title. It was an old dodge, but a good one. Nothing appeared on the advertisements but the mere title. No word as to what "The Crimson Cord" was. Perkins merely announced the words, and left them to rankle in the reader's mind; and as a natural consequence each new advertisement served to create new interest.

When we made our contracts for magazine advertising—and we took a full page in every worthy magazine—the publishers were at a loss to classify the advertisement; and it sometimes appeared among the breakfast foods, and sometimes sandwiched in between the automobiles and the hot-water heaters. Only one publication placed it among the books.

But it was all food advertising, and Perkins was a busy man. He racked his inventive brain for new methods of placing the title before the public. In fact, so busy was he at his labor of introducing the title that he quite forgot the book itself.

One day he came to the office with a small rectangular package. He unwrapped it in his customary enthusiastic manner, and set on my desk a cigar-box bound in the style he had selected for the binding of "The Crimson Cord." It was then I spoke of the advisability of having something to the book besides the cover and a boom.

"Perkins," I said, "don't you think it is about time we got hold of the novel—the reading, the words?"

For a moment he seemed stunned. It was clear that he had quite forgotten

that book-buyers like to have a little reading matter in their books. But he was only dismayed for a moment.

"Tut!" he cried presently. "All in good time! The novel is easy. Anything will do. I'm no literary man. I don't read a book in a year. You get the novel."

"But I don't read a book in five years!" I exclaimed. "I don't know anything about books. I don't know where to get a novel."

"Advertise!" he exclaimed. "Advertise! You can get anything, from an apron to an ancestor, if you advertise for it. Offer a prize—offer a thousand dollars for the best novel. There must be thousands of novels not in use."

Perkins was right. I advertised as he suggested, and learned that there were thousands of novels not in use. They came to us by basketfuls and cartloads. We had novels of all kinds—historical and hysterical, humorous and numerous, but particularly numerous. You would be surprised to learn how many ready-made novels can be had on short notice. It beats quick lunch. And most of them are equally indigestible. I read one or two, but I was no judge of novels. Perkins suggested that we draw lots to see which we should use.

It really made little difference what the story was about. "The Crimson Cord" fits almost any kind of a book. It is a nice, noncommittal sort of title, and might mean the guilt that bound two sinners or the tie of affection that binds lovers, or a blood relationship, or it might be a mystification title with nothing in the book about it.

But the choice settled itself. One morning a manuscript arrived that was tied with a piece of red twine, and we chose that one for good luck because of the twine. Perkins said that was a sufficient excuse for the title, too. We would publish the book anonymously, and let it be known that the only clew to the writer was the crimson cord with which the manuscript was tied when we received it. It would be a first-class advertisement.

Perkins, however, was not much interested in the story, and he left me to settle the details. I wrote to the

author asking him to call, and he turned out to be a young woman.

Our interview was rather shy. I was a little doubtful about the proper way to talk to a real author, being purely a Chicagoan myself; and I had an idea that, while my usual vocabulary was good enough for business purposes, it might be too easy-going to impress a literary person properly, and in trying to talk up to her standard I had to be very careful in my choice of words. No publisher likes to have his authors think he is weak in the grammar line.

Miss Rosa Belle Vincent, however, was quite as flustered as I was. She seemed ill at ease and anxious to get away, which I supposed was because she had not often conversed with publishers who paid a thousand dollars cash in advance for a manuscript.

She was not at all what I had thought an author would look like. She didn't even wear glasses. If I had met her on the street I should have said, "There goes a pretty flip stenographer." She was that kind—big picture hat and high pompadour.

I was afraid she would try to run the talk into literary lines and Ibsen and Gorky, where I would have been swamped in a minute, but she didn't; and, although I had wondered how to break the subject of money when conversing with one who must be thinking of nobler things, I found she was less shy when on that subject than when talking about her book.

"Well, now," I said as soon as I had got her seated, "we have decided to buy this novel of yours. Can you recommend it as a thoroughly respectable and intellectual reproduction?"

She said she could.

"Haven't you read it?" she asked in some surprise.

"No," I stammered. "At least not yet. I'm going to as soon as I can find the requisite leisure. You see, we are very busy just now—very busy. But if you can vouch for the story being a first-class article—something, say, like 'The Vicar of Wakefield' or 'David Harum'—we'll take it."

"Now you're talking," she said. "And do I get a check now?"

"Wait," I said, "not so fast. I have

forgotten one thing," and I saw her face fall. "We want the privilege of publishing the novel under a title of our own, and anonymously. If that is not satisfactory the deal is off."

She brightened in a moment.

"It's a go, if that's all," she said. "Call it whatever you please; and the more anonymous it is the better it will suit yours truly."

So we settled the matter then and there; and when I gave our check for a thousand she said it was all right.

Half an hour after Miss Vincent had left the office Perkins came in with his arms full of bundles, which he opened, spreading their contents on my desk.

He had a pair of suspenders with nickel-silver mountings, a tie, a lady's belt, a pair of low shoes, a shirt, a box of cigars, a package of cookies and half a dozen other things of divers and miscellaneous character. I poked them over and examined them, while he leaned against the desk with his legs crossed. He was beaming upon me.

"Well," I said, "what is it—a bargain sale?"

Perkins leaned over and tapped the pile with his long forefinger.

"Aftermath!" he crowed. "Aftermath!"

"The dickens it is!" I exclaimed. "And what has aftermath got to do with this truck? It looks like the aftermath of a notion store."

He tipped his "Air-the Hair" hat over one ear, and put his thumbs in the armholes of his "ready-tailored" vest.

"Genius!" he announced. "Brains! Foresight! Else why Perkins the Great? Why not Perkins the Nobody?"

He raised the suspenders tenderly from the pile and fondled them in his hands.

"See this?" he asked, running his finger along the red corded edge of the elastic. He took up the tie and ran his nail along the red stripe that formed the selvedge on the back and said, "See this?" He pointed to the red laces on the low shoes and asked, "See this?" And so on through the whole collection.

"What is it?" he asked. "It's genius! It's foresight!"

He waved his hand over the pile.

"The aftermath!" he exclaimed.

"These suspenders are the Crimson Cord suspenders. Those shoes are the Crimson Cord shoes. This tie is the Crimson Cord tie. These crackers are the Crimson Cord brand. Perkins & Co. get out a great book, 'The Crimson Cord'! Sell five million copies. Dramatized, it runs three hundred nights. Everybody talking Crimson Cord. Country goes Crimson Cord crazy. Result—up jump Crimson Cord this and Crimson Cord that. Who gets the benefit? Perkins & Co.? No! We pay the advertising bills and the other man sells his Crimson Cord cigars. That is usual."

"Yes," I said, "I'm smoking a David Harum cigar this minute, and I am wearing a Carvel collar."

"How prevent it?" asked Perkins. "One way only—discovered by Perkins. Copyright the words 'Crimson Cord' as trademark for every possible thing. Sell the trademark on royalty. Ten per cent, of all receipts for 'Crimson Cord' brands comes to Perkins & Co. Get a cinch on the aftermath!"

"Perkins!" I cried, "I admire you. You are a genius! And have you contracts with all these—notions?"

"Yes," said Perkins, "that's Perkins's method. Who originated the Crimson Cord? Perkins did. Who is entitled to the profits on the Crimson Cord? Perkins is. Perkins is wide-awake all the time. Perkins gets a profit on the aftermath and the math and the before the math."

And so he did. He made his new contracts with the magazines on the exchange plan. We gave a page of advertising in the "Crimson Cord" for a page of advertising in the magazine. We guaranteed five million circulation. We arranged with all the manufacturers of the Crimson Cord brands of goods to give coupons, one hundred of which entitled the holder to a copy of "The Crimson Cord." With a pair of Crimson Cord suspenders you get five coupons; with each Crimson Cord cigar, one coupon, and so on.

On the first of October we announced in our advertisement that "The Crimson Cord" was a book; the greatest novel of the century; a thrilling, excit-

ing tale of love. Miss Vincent had told me it was a love story. Just to make everything sure, however, I sent the manuscript to Prof. Wiggins, who is the most erudite man I ever met. He knows eighteen languages and reads Egyptian as easily as I read English. In fact, his specialty is old Egyptian ruins and so on. He has written several books on them.

Professor said the novel seemed to him very light and trashy, but grammatically O. K. He said he never read novels, not having time; but he thought that "The Crimson Cord" was just about the sort of thing a silly public that refused to buy his "Some Light on the Dynastic Proclivities of the Hyksos" would scramble for. On the whole, I considered the report satisfactory.

We found we would be unable to have Pyle illustrate the book, he being too busy, so we turned it over to a young man at the Art institute.

That was the fifteenth of October, and we had promised the book to the public for the first of November, but we had it already in type; and the young man—his name was Gilkowsky—promised to work night and day on the illustrations.

The next morning, almost at soon as I reached the office, Gilkowsky came in. He seemed a little hesitant, but I welcomed him warmly and he spoke up.

"I have a girl to go with," he said, and I wondered what I had to do with Mr. Gilkowsky's girl, but he continued:

"She's a nice girl and a good looker, but she's got bad taste in some things. She's too loud in hats and too trashy in literature. I don't like to say this about her, but it's true; and I'm trying to educate her in good hats and good literature. So I thought it would be a good thing to take around this 'Crimson Cord' and let her read it to me."

I nodded.

"Did she like it?" I asked.

Mr. Gilkowsky looked at me closely.

"She did," he said, but not so enthusiastically as I had expected. It's her favorite book. Now I suppose you know what you are doing better than I do; but I thought perhaps I had

better come around before I got to work on the illustrations and see if, perhaps, you hadn't given me the wrong manuscript."

"No, that was the right manuscript," I said. "Was there anything wrong about it?"

Mr. Gilkowsky laughed nervously.

"Oh, no," he said. "But did you read it?"

I told him I had not, because I had been so rushed with details connected with advertising the book.

"Well," he said, "I'll tell you. This girl of mine reads pretty trashy stuff, and she knows about all the cheap novels there are. She dotes on 'The Duchess,' and puts her last dime into Braddon. She knows them all by heart. Have you ever read 'Lady Audley's Secret'?"

"I see," I said. "One is a sequel to the other."

"No," said Mr. Gilkowsky, "one is the other. Some one has flimflammed you and sold you a typewritten copy of 'Lady Audley's Secret' as a new novel."

When I told Perkins, he merely remarked that he thought every publishing house ought to have some one in it who knew something about books, apart from the advertising end, although that was, of course, the most important. He said he might go ahead and publish "Lady Audley's Secret" under the title of "The Crimson Cord," as such things had been done before; but the best thing to do would be to charge Rosa Belle Vincent's thousand dollars to profit and loss, and hustle for another novel—something reliable, and not shopworn.

Perkins had been studying the literature market a little, and he advised me to get something from Indiana this time; so I telegraphed an advertisement to the Indianapolis papers, and two days later we had ninety-eight historical novels by Indiana authors from which to choose. Several were of the right length; and we chose one, and sent it to Mr. Gilkowsky, with a request that he read it to his sweetheart. She had never read it before.

We sent a detective to Dillville, Ind.,

(Continued on page 95.)

TRIAL MATES

By Izola Forrester

Copyright, 1912, by the Associated Literary Press.

THERE'S a misdeal," said Nita wickedly, as she accepted Howell's aid in mounting. He hardly heard her. Ahead, just disappearing up the long winding trail were two figures on horseback, Nita's big sister Beth Rathburn and young Crittenden. There surely was a misdeal. Howell swung into his saddle and rode beside the trail mate that chance had given him totally unconscious of her own appealing charm and most excellent horsemanship.

And ahead of them laid a ride of three hours—three hours of inevitable tete-a-tete companionship. Howell knew that in those three hours lay all the chances of happiness he possessed. He had accepted Crittenden's invitation to spend two weeks at his ranch merely on the hope of meeting Beth Rathburn again. This after she had flatly refused him twice during the winter season. But, somehow, man fashion, he had reasoned if he could only find her out in these gorgeous mountains he might be able to touch the real inner nature he believed lay beneath her girlish frivolity and waywardness.

This had been his first chance, after two days, for a quiet, intimate talk with her, and somehow, Bob Crittenden rode in his place beside her at the crucial moment.

"My girth needs tightening." Nita's voice recalled him to his duty. The girl leaned over and watched him as he cinched up. And then she looked beyond his bowed head, off toward two figures barely visible at a turn of the winding path up the valley.

Suddenly she spoke impulsively.

"I'm awfully sorry you didn't get Beth, but you can't any more, you know. Bob's terribly jealous, and really he has the say-so now."

Howell's eyes darkened. They were good eyes, gray and earnest. He looked up at the tender expressive face with quick suspicion.

"You mean?"

"They're engaged," said Nita, simply. "Last night, on the veranda. Beth told me when she came to bed Oh, please—please hold him——"

Howell made a leap toward the bridle but the pony plunged and backed, half turning about, and rearing. From the ground where it stood there wriggled a snake back into the mesquite. Nita was holding with one hand to the saddle horn, and gripping the reins with all her force, trying to keep her seat. The pony broke suddenly and ran madly, while Howell swung into his own saddle and gave chase.

The race lay in an opposite direction from the rest of the party. There was no chance to call for help. Straightway up the mountain path went the pony, and Howell's lips were pressed close as he watched the uncertain swaying of the slender figure on the high Mexican saddle. She seemed hardly more than a child in her riding suit of gray corduroy, her hair blowing back from her young, vivid face. Something woke to life at that tense moment in Howell's heart, something that beat back the anger and hurt pride at Beth's coquetry. Putting his spurs to his horse, he gained steadily on the frightened pony, and rode alongside just as Nita was falling. There was no chance to check the pony. All he could do was to catch her as she fell, while he slipped off his own horse. So for a minute he held her in his arms like a hurt child, and wondered why she did not faint. Instead, she smiled up at him with the same laughing mischief in her long-lashed brown eyes.

"I'm not hurt a bit, Mr. Howell. You don't need to hold me any longer."

"There's sure to be a nervous shock," said Howell, gravely. "Are you sure you can stand alone?"

"Try me," she laughed. He lifted her up to his own saddle. The pony had stopped a short distance away, and was cropping grass. "Aren't we lost?" she added.

"Completely. I haven't any idea of these trails, or where they lead to. I shall hobble the horses and make a teepee of poles, and go hunt a bear. That's the usual procedure, isn't it? We're real trail mates, now."

She smiled half wistfully.

"I am hungry. Aren't you, Mr. Howell?"

"First name is Paul."

"I might have called you by it if you had been my brother-in-law," she rejoined demurely, slipping to the ground.

"I intend to be Beth's brother-in-law, so you may as well start in."

He was loosening the girths on the horse, and spoke with decision. Nita's eyes sparkled with amusement. She seated herself on the ground, and studied the contour of his head. At eighteen every point in a man tells its own story. She had been in love with Howell for days, as much in love as she ever would be. She was not a girl like Beth, full of sentiment, and fond of admiration. The man she loved must be a good pal, a comrade true, as well as husband and sweetheart. The trail was a long one, she knew, with many turnings. Somehow, she had thought Paul Howell was splendidly fitted to be a trail mate.

"Not half an hour ago you intended to be my brother-in-law," she said naively.

"You have grown up in that half hour from a little girl to a woman; don't you realize that? I do." He left the horse, and threw himself down beside her. "When that pony broke away and ran with you, and death was a possibility—Nita, look at me—I knew that I should follow you to the end of the new trail, no matter where it led. And it has led us—here."

He waited for an answer. Nita looked past him, out at the splendid panorama of mountains that spread below them. The Crittenden ranch looked like a toy block house far down in the valley. The cattle on the broad plateau across the valley were like Noah's ark animals.

She turned her head after a long pause and smiled down at him.

"Are you really making love to me, Mr. Howell?"

"I ask you to be my wife, Nita," he answered, steadily. "Oh, I know it seems queer to you Eastern girls, the swift courtship of us men who have lived out here, beating success out of newly opened lands. We haven't time to serve our ladies fair, dear heart. Some day, some hour, there comes along the girl who is different from all other girls in the world, and we know her then when we see her. Can't you understand? Beth did attract me. I met her up in town, and admired her, but this is different. I don't want a pretty goddess to sit up on a pedestal, and keep the dust off. I want a sweetheart-pal, who will fight with me, side by side, out here to win out. I want a girl with nerve and pluck, and a happy heart. I just want you."

Down the trail there came a long hail. The party had missed them, and retraced its way. Howell gripped both her hands in his, and helped her to rise. They looked at each other in dead silence, wondering at this miracle that had changed the world in half an hour. Then Nita lifted her face to his.

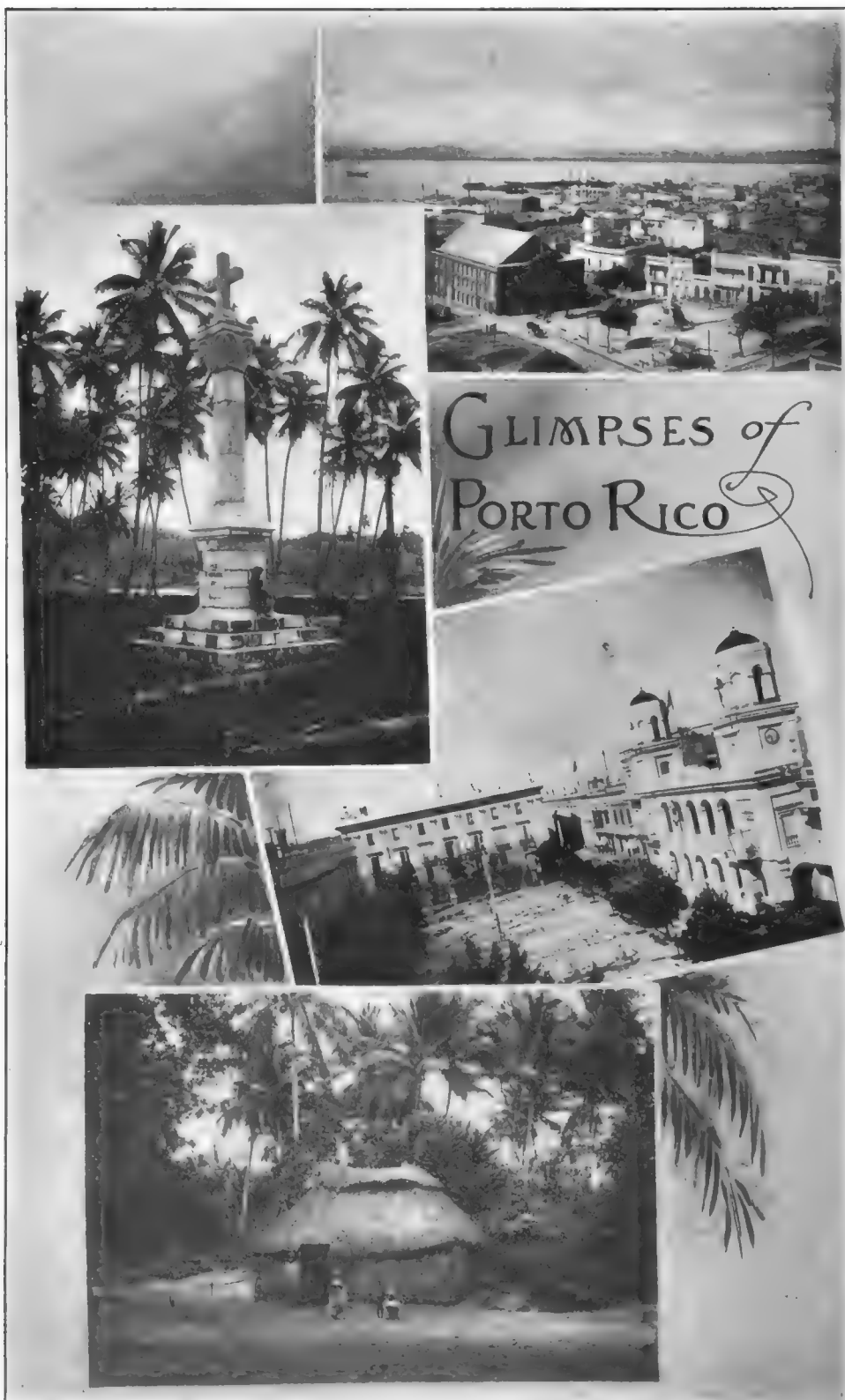
"I'll stay with you," she said, simply.

A Curious Windstorm

A peculiar freak of weather is the storm called the "williwau." This form of storm is confined to that far-off island Tierra del Fuego. The coast is indented with deep fiords crowned with high mountains. Down from their gorges drop the williwau. A low, hoarse muttering is heard in the distance. Suddenly, without the least preliminary puff, a fearful blast of wind drops from the sea. The water is not raised into waves, but driven into fine dust. Fortunately the shock lasts but ten or twelve seconds and calm follows at once, for no vessel could stand such a wind for even half a minute. During the coming and going of a williwau the barometer may be watched to drop a tenth of an inch or more and rise again at once.

Advice to Youth

The easiest way to acquire a fortune is to inherit it from your father.—*Omaha World-Herald.*



SOMEWHAT HUMOROUS

Country Kid Had No Sentiment.



City Cousin—Tell me, sir, how's the milkmaid?
Country One—It ain't made, you poor mutt; the cow gives it.

Evidence

"What makes you think our great public men don't work as hard as they used to?"

"By the photographs," replied Farmer Cornfossel. "When I was a young feller the big men in politics didn't take near as much time to git shaved an' have their hair cut."—*Washington Star*.

Old Darkey Logic

A gentleman owning a cotton estate had a characteristic old "mammy" who never could be found without her pipe. One day her employer asked her if she expected to go to Heaven.

"Deed I does—'deed I does," she answered.

"But, mammy, you know you smoke a great deal, and the angels surely will not like that."

"But I won't smoke up dar, sah!"

"No? Still they will smell tobacco on your breath."

"'Deed dey won't, sah. I reckon I done leave m' bref here."—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

The Real Harvest

"Did you see the Harvest Moon last night?"

"Harvest Moon? At this time of year?"

"Well, that's what the Ice and Coal Trust call it."—*Evening World*.

Step by Step

"I never can see how you can afford a motor car, old chap," said Binks.

"I had to mortgage my house to pay for it," confessed Jinks. "I'm building a new garage now."

"A new garage! I say, how are you going to pay for it?"

"Oh, it's quite simple! I've mortgaged the car."

Binks opened his eyes in astonishment.

"But, my dear fellow, these mortgages will fall due some day, won't they?" he asked.

Jinks smiled wisely.

"That's all right," he said; "then I'll mortgage the garage."

Friendly Advice

"We surprised all our friends by getting married."

"Good enough. Now surprise 'em by staying married."—*Chicago Journal*.

Unfortunate.



"Here comes Maud Victoria, an' she'll want me to walk with her. an' the back o' my pants isn't fit to be saw."

SOMEWHAT HUMOROUS



The Catch.

"My dear lad, what will your father say? It's Sunday!"

"Well, last time 'e said: 'Where the 'ell's the fish?'"

Or Hunting

PROF—Is a watermelon a vegetable or a fruit?

STUDE—I don't know. But please tell me whether clam digging is fishing or agricultural.

Making Headway

HOBBS—Well, how is the new cook getting on?

MRS. HOBBS—She's getting on her things preparatory to leaving.

Sure of Her Ground

MISTRESS—Jane, I saw the milkman kiss you this morning. In the future I will take the milk in.

JANE—"Twouldn't be no use, mum. He's promised never to kiss anyone but me.

An Old Story

MISS CHAPPEL—Where did you go over the week end?

MR. YORK—I went to Atlantic City for change and rest.

SHE—How was it?

HE—The waiters got the change and the hotel the rest.

A Good Resolution

"I'm going to make light of my troubles this year."

"That so?"

"Yes, burn my bills as fast as they come."

Get the Hook

"Have you any double-pointed tacks?"

"No, sir, we don't carry them."

"Why, I thought they were a staple article?"

Even English

FROSH—Do you teach Chinese here?

REGISTRAR—Sure, we teach any body.

Meant Business

MAUD—Did Jack kiss you when you accepted him?

CLARA—Certainly. I wouldn't consider any but sealed proposals.

Embarrassing

Pat, thinking to enliven the party, stated, with watch in hand, "I'll present a box of candy to the loidy that makes the homeliest face within the next three minutes."

The time expiring, Pat announced, "Ah, Mrs. McGuire, you get the prize."

"But," protested Mrs. McGuire, "go 'way wid ye! I wasn't playin' at all."

—*Ladies' Home Journal*.

Spring Fever

DOCTOR—My dear lady, you are in perfect health. I can't find a thing the matter with you.

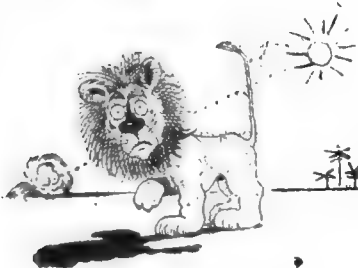
PATIENT—I wish you'd try again, doctor; I do so want to go away to recuperate.—*Century Magazine*.

Nature Faking

"What's a groundhog, anyway?"

"'Ground hog' is just a vulgar name for 'sausage.'"—*World*.

SOMEWHAT HUMOROUS

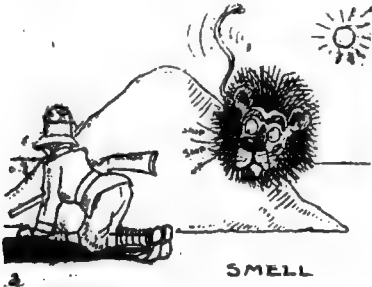


HEARING

Debtor's Paradise

"The days in the Arctic are six months long."

"What a cinch for the man whose notes are due in three days!"—*Evening World*.



SMELL

Too Late

"Do you know who her grandfather was? Have you ascertained anything in regard to her pedigree? Those are things you ought to know about the woman you are to make your wife."

"Oh, hang her grandfather!"

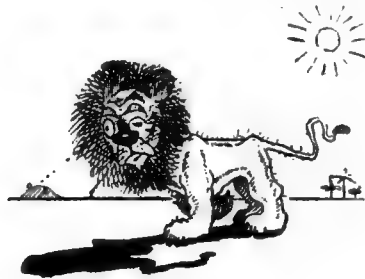
"My boy, that's just what they did do."—*Youth's Companion*.

Ruling Passion

I knew Butts' smoking would get him into trouble."

"Well?"

"At his wedding, when it came to the ring part, he reached into his pocket and handed the minister a match."



SIGHT

Evidence

LITTLE NEPHEW—Auntie, did you marry an Indian?

AUNT—Why do you ask such silly questions, Freddy?

LITTLE NEPHEW—Well, I saw some scalps on your dressing table.



TOUCH



TASTE

—HARRIS—

First Wireless Chess Game

IT WAS PROBABLY PLAYED BETWEEN CULEBRA AND PORTO BELLO IN THE CANAL ZONE.

In reading *The Times* of January 18 I discovered a dispatch from Minneapolis, stating that what was believed to be the first chess game by wireless had just been played in that city. I believe the first chess game by wireless was played between the chess clubs of the Young Men's Christian Association, Culebra, Canal Zone, and the Young Men's Christian Association of Porto Bello. The distance from Porto Bello to Colon is twenty-five miles. This game was played beginning March 28, and ended some time in August, 1911, the Porto Bello chess team resigning in favor of the Culebra team. I had the honor of being one of the team in Culebra and inasmuch as we are very sure that this is the first game ever played by wireless over a distance of twenty-five miles or so, we would be grateful if you would publish this fact.

The wireless stations on the Isthmus and at Porto Bello are under the control of the United States Navy. Commander Butler is in charge, and very kindly placed this service at our disposal.

E. A. PUTNAM,
Secretary.

Cristobal, Canal Zone.

Wireless Business Gain

INCREASE OF 30 PER CENT. IN MESSAGES NOTED LAST YEAR.

An increase of over 30 per cent. in the number of wireless messages handled by the United Wireless Telegraph Company during the year 1911 compared with the previous year is shown by figures compiled recently by R. H. Armstrong, general manager of the company. Including the ship's business, private and commercial communications, 112,000 messages were handled by the vessels equipped with United Wireless. Clerks in Mr. Armstrong's office have figured that 1,764,011 words were sent between the various vessels and stations of the company.

The Perry Memorial

Plans are on foot to hold a Perry Victory Centennial Celebration on Put-in-Bay Island, Lake Erie, during the summer of 1913 to celebrate the victory of Commodore O. H. Perry over the flotilla of Great Britain, September 13, 1813. There is available a Federal and State appropriation of about \$700,000 toward the erection of a memorial in commemoration of that battle. The occasion will be made one of national importance, as the event it commemorates is one of national interest. About eighty leading architects submitted designs for the memorial, and the contract has been awarded to J. H. Freeland and A. D. Seymour, Jr.

The design provides for a plaza 200 by 1,000 feet, on which will stand a shaft in the form of a Doric column 320 feet in height. The shaft is also to serve as a lighthouse. On one side of the column will be a museum and on the other a colonnade. In the museum will be objects and relics connected with the war of 1812.

Columbus' Ship and Crew

So far as research has been able to calculate from available data, the length of the Santa Maria, in which Columbus first crossed the Atlantic, was 92 feet over all, 70½ feet on the waterline, and 61 feet length of keel. The extreme breadth was 36 feet; depth molded, 13 feet; draft, 10 feet. The weight of the hull was 90 tons, and the displacement 233 tons. The height of the mainmast 89 feet, height of the foremast 61½ feet, height of the mizenmast 44½ feet. The crew which manned this vessel was cosmopolitan in character, including a Jew, an Irishman, an Englishman, Italians, Portuguese, Spaniards, and it is believed there was also a Scotchman on the list, for whom it is claimed that he was the first man to tread the soil of the New World after Columbus himself had landed. When we compare these little vessels with the great leviathans that now sail the seas and sometimes have all they can do to successfully combat its storms, we can only believe that Old Ocean must have been in a very amiable mood to permit of their safe crossing.

Milady Goes Away

Now, don't forget the cat, my dear; his meat is on the shelf. Give Dick fresh water. See it's clear. Be careful of yourself. Be sure to lock the cellar door before you leave the house. Go all around and look things o'er; see if there is a mouse in any of the traps I've set. Don't let the furnace go too fast. The pipe is apt to get redhot and burn, you know. You'd better keep the curtains drawn—the rugs are apt to fade. You won't be home much while I'm gone, so draw the parlor shade. Be sure the big front door is fast before you go downtown and fix the furnace fire to last by banking it well down. Be sure to air the bedroom, dear. You know the proper way. I always feel a little fear when I am gone away!

Be sure to leave the milk crock out, so they can leave the milk. Observe if there are tramps about or any of their ilk. Make all the downstairs windows fast, so tramps can't get inside. I think there's bread enough to last; it's that new yeast I tried. Don't let the tin pan overflow beneath the icebox, dear. It's emptied twice a day, you know. I hope I make that clear. Be careful of the kitchen sink; don't let the drainpipes clog. Be sure to give old Tray a drink. He's such a faithful dog! Don't let the water faucet freeze; cold weather's apt to crack the pipes, so watch them closely, please, dear, until I get back.

And water my big fern, please, dear. It's just begun to grow. Be careful of the jardiniere; don't let it overflow. Don't let the goldfish bowl go dry. Please keep this on your mind. I know you've lots to do, but try to do what I've outlined. Don't leave the windows up too long and let the house get chilled. The butter might get soft and strong, so keep the icebox filled. Don't let the cat go roaming through the front part of the house, as he is very apt to do if he should hear a mouse. Keep the piano closed, my dear. Jane's a good girl, 'tis true, but when her mistress is not here no telling what she'll do. Be sure to snap the swing door lock that leads into the hall. Don't fail to wind the big hall clock, and—there. I think that's all! If Jane goes out be

sure to see that she comes in right soon. Goodby, now, dear! I think I'll be back home tomorrow noon!—J. W. Foley in *New York Times*.

Song of the Commuter

If my home's about eight minutes from the station,

Or say seven, if I take it on a trot,
And I've only *three* to reach my destination—

Then the train pulls out exactly on the dot.

But in case I have an extra pair of hours,

And can amble to the tracks with sluggish gait,

When I've time enroute to stop to pick the flowers—

Then the blooming thing is twenty minutes late.

G. S. K.

(Continued from page 87.)

where the author lived; and the report we received was most satisfactory.

The author was a sober, industrious young man, just out of the high school, and bore a first-class reputation for honesty. He had never been in Virginia, where the scene of his story was laid, and they had no library in Dillville; and our detective assured us that the young man was in every way fitted to write a historical novel.

"The Crimson Cord" made an immense success. You can guess how it boomed when I say that, although it was published at a dollar and a half, it was sold by every department store for fifty-four cents, away below cost, just like sugar or Vandeventer's Baby Food or Q & Z Corsets, or any other staple. We sold our first edition of five million copies inside of three months, and got another edition of two million, and a specially illustrated holiday edition, and an "edition de luxe," and "The Crimson Cord" is still selling in paper-covered cheap edition.

With the royalties received from the aftermath and the profit on the book itself we made—well, Perkins has a country place at Lakewood and I have my cottage at Newport.

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Wireless Telephony

A German engineer was recently granted a patent that seems to be a realization of one of Tesla's dreams. The engineer claims to have established wireless telephony between Germany and Canada without the use of an aerial wire and by simply resorting to a powerful alternating current of great frequency and by using the earth to form a connection. It is difficult to determine where to fix the limit of wireless communication. As it is now there have cropped up difficulties for regulating the operation of wireless telegraphy. When every man becomes his own wireless telegraphy station, nothing but a delicate process of tuning will prevent the unauthorized person from picking up messages that are scattered all over the world. It is discoveries of this kind that lead one to say "amen" to Shakespeare's remark:

"There are more things in Heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Some day an electrician will devise some innocent looking battery or other device that can be pointed at a dreadnought, miles away, and which on being discharged, will blow her to pieces, with no ammunition and with more certainty than the heaviest ordnance of the army and navy. The inventors' art is not exhausted and never will be, as one improvement after another suggests additional improvements, and it is through such suggestions during these improvements that perfection for public use is accomplished.

Wants to be Buried on Broadway

Raymond Hitchcock, star of "The Red Widow," at the Astor, says he is going to be buried on Broadway when he passes on. He says he doesn't want to get away from the white lights.

"I am going to try and induce the New York City Fathers to sell me a world-end lease on that triangle plot of ground at the head of Long Acre Square. I say I am going to try. If I am not successful in securing that particular plot, then some other equally noisy one," he said.

Speaking of Fish

During the fiscal year of 1911 the Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce and Labor distributed the largest output of fish and eggs in its history, the total being 3,646,294,535 or nearly 13 per cent. greater than in 1910. Of these distributions 550,470,414 eggs 1,029,800 fry, and 1,060 larger fish were delivered to various State fish commissions, and 86,000 eggs, 6,000,000 fry, and 2,050 older fish were furnished for shipment to foreign countries.

Notwithstanding the heavy increases in output shown from year to year, the Bureau states that it has been impossible to keep pace with the needs of public and private waters. The rapidly increasing population and consequent opening up of new territory, the changed physical conditions of the country, continuous expansion of the fisheries, lax enforcement of fishery laws by many States, and total disregard of fishery interests by others, all of these causes combine to render imperative the greatest possible exertions on the part of the Bureau.—*The Marine Journal*.

It Happened in Boston

Rabbi Wise, when he visited Boston for the first time, was undecided at what hotel to stop. As he wandered up Summer street from the South station, he determined to inquire for a good hotel. So he accosted a fine-appearing man who was coming toward him, confident that from such a citizen he would be sure to get the very best advice as to his choice of a stopping place.

"What would be a good place to stop at?" he inquired of the stranger.

"Just before you reach the at," was the disconcerting reply.—*Cosmopolitan Magazine*.

The wind was high, and the steam was low,

The seas was heavy and it was hard to go;

The coal was poor and full of slate,
And that's the reason the ship was late.

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Wireless Conference

TO PLAN INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF
VARIOUS SYSTEMS.

London, Feb. 7.—An international convention on wireless telegraphy will be held in London in June next and every Government will send representatives. The meeting will probably be held in one of the Government offices, beginning on June 4. It is hoped that the conference will result in international control of the various systems of wireless telegraphy. This will be only the second wireless conference yet held, the first having been held in 1906 in Berlin. Wireless telegraphy has made great strides since then and many new problems have arisen for consideration.

The conference will endeavor to come to a decision on all questions affecting the regulation of wireless telegraphy. In 1906 the only subject dealt with was marine communication. Now shore to shore communication will have to be taken into consideration.

At the present time if it were proposed to introduce a service between, say, London and Constantinople, there would have to be all sorts of negotiations between the telegraphic departments of the respective countries interested. It is hoped that one result of the conference will be that such a service could be inaugurated without all these preliminary details. Then there will be no question of one country interfering with another in securing complete wireless telegraphic

services and the respective rights of each country in regard to tolls on the messages will doubtless be determined. There is no doubt that the conference will lay down the future conduct of radio-telegraphy. The business will be simplified and terms and conditions definitely arranged.

Good Work Accomplished by Science for Humanity

Wireless telegraphy as a life saver at sea has proven its worth as never before during the forepart of Feb., 1912. Along the Atlantic coast nearly half a hundred vessels were rescued by revenue cutters or other vessels belonging to the United States navy, while the number of lives saved is inestimable. Science is doing much for humanity these days and new inventions come so rapidly that it requires some striking illustration like that just referred to to impress us with the tremendous strides we are making for insuring safety and comfort under almost all conditions of existence.

If some one had told you thirty years ago that they had received a wire from a friend who was known to be out in the middle of the Atlantic in a storm tossed ship you would have suggested that he be examined for lunacy. Yet that is exactly what is taking place every hour in the day and night. Ships crossing the sea are in touch with some point of land during the entire voyage, while communication between steamers is constant.

When the cry for help goes out into the storm swept sky, there is usually an answering word of hope from some quarter and a hurry to the rescue, although the ships may be even hundreds of miles apart. The loneliness of sea travel is thus completely dispelled and people on board ship are no longer ignorant of the important happenings throughout the world, for bulletins are not only posted conspicuously on all the larger vessels, but the morning newspaper lies beside the plate at the breakfast table, and the thought that one is not so very far from home after all has made many a nervous soul feel comfortable.

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Mr. Arthur P. West, Chairman, Executive Committee on Re-organization, has requested the AEROGRAM to reprint the following extract from the re-organization plan prepared by his committee.

The Bankruptcy Act does not permit trustees to indefinitely carry on the business of a bankrupt, but, on the contrary, directs them to wind up the business and pay the claims of the creditors, and it has only been through the courtesy and indulgence of the court, the creditors and trustees that the business has thus far been kept intact—for the stockholders.

It now becomes necessary for the stockholders to reorganize the company without delay, since the trustees have decided to file a petition in the bankruptcy court asking for authority to offer certain assets of the estate for sale at public auction at an early date. In order that the stockholders' interests may be protected, it is absolutely essential that immediate arrangements be made so that the Committee will be in a position to bid for the property when it is offered for sale.

The Trustees in bankruptcy have, under the authority of the court, issued a Trustees' certificate in the sum of

\$75,000, a large portion of this amount having been required for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in connection with various State Receiver-ships, and the holder of this certificate has a lien upon the assets.

There are also numerous provable claims against the estate, and it is estimated that approximately \$125,000 will be required to pay these claims and the expenses of the administration in bankruptcy. It therefore appears that approximately \$200,000 will be required to pay the Trustees' Certificate, claims against the estate and bankruptcy expenses. It is, of course, important that any new corporation organized under any plan of reorganization should have a substantial amount of money in its treasury for the purpose of successfully conducting the business and it is important to raise at least \$300,000 in cash in order to insure a satisfactory reorganization.

We are informed that the Trustees intend forthwith to apply to the bankruptcy court for authority to sell at public auction as one parcel and without division all of the assets of the estate except the suits and claims against various officers of the company, and

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that the Trustees intend to recommend to the court that in the order of sale provision be made that the Trustees shall not be permitted to accept any bid for the assets offered for sale of less than the sum of \$550,000.

We therefore propose to provide in our bid for the payment of approximately \$200,000 in cash, to offer as security for the payment of the balance of the purchase price all of the shares of stock which may be turned over by stockholders in accordance with the plain hereinafter set forth, and to offer other security if it should seem to the Committee necessary or advisable to do so.

The plan of reorganization is as follows:

It is proposed to form a new corporation under the laws of the State of New York, with an authorized capital about equal to the number of shares subscribed under the terms of this plan, and to have the new corporation purchase from the Trustees in bankruptcy, all the assets of the present company including its patents, except the suits and claims against officers of the old company.

Each legitimate stockholder of the

present bankrupt company shall have the right to exchange two shares of stock in the old company for one share of stock in the new company, provided the stockholder also pays 50c. in cash for each share of stock in the old company which he offers for exchange. The par value of each share of stock in the new company will be \$5.00.

(Note: No distinction will be made between preferred and common stock of the bankrupt corporation for the reason that no distinction was ever made by the United Wireless Telegraph Company between preferred and common stock in the distribution of assets but only in the payment of dividends.)

And notice is now given that the time within which stockholders may subscribe to the plan herein set forth is limited to April 15, 1912.

We expect to be obliged to bid for the property at public auction, and it is possible that we may not succeed in purchasing the property for such sum as it seems advisable for us to offer. All subscriptions are therefore made with the distinct understanding that they will be held in trust, and if the Committee is unsuccessful in making an offer for the property, which is ac-

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ALFRED S. AMER, V. P. and General Manager

Lately Asst. Manager Waldorf-Astoria, N. Y.

cepted and confirmed by the court, the amount of each cash subscription, less the subscriber's pro rata share of expenses incurred by the Committee of reorganization, and also the certificates of stock deposited by him, will be returned.

If the Committee shall be successful in having its offer for the property accepted and confirmed by the court, the new corporation will forthwith be formed, certain portions of the cash subscribed will be applied to the payment of the expense incurred by the reorganization committee, other portions will be used for the payment of such amount of cash as may be required in order to purchase the property, and the balance will go into the treasury of the new company. All certificates of stock deposited in pursuance of the plan will be turned over to the new company, and will become the property of that company, and thereupon the new company will issue and deliver certificates of stock in pursuance of the plan herein set forth.

The Committee would have been able to arrange with a responsible corporation to underwrite \$200,000 at an underwriting fee of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., in other

words, for the sum of \$5,000; but it has been regarded as important to effect the reorganization at the smallest possible expense, and having confidence that the reorganization can be carried through without any underwriting expenses, we have decided to proceed with our plan without incurring any expense in this respect.

We are unable to make any definite statement as to the future, but we are of the opinion that the plan herewith submitted is the best solution of the problem presented to us, and that stockholders desiring to retain an interest in the wireless telegraph business now have an opportunity which may enable them not only to recoup some of their losses, but also to become stockholders in a wireless corporation having prospects of a successful future. We welcome the fullest inquiry from groups of stockholders whose holdings aggregate any considerable number of shares, and in all cases we shall be glad to have you submit these papers to your local banker for his advice and also for information as to the standing and financial responsibility of the Broadway Trust Company.

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many thousands of stockholders owning a considerable portion of the outstanding stock and to these we can only say that we have endeavored to conserve their interests in every possible way and now recommend to them the acceptance of the plan herewith submitted.

We have given careful consideration to the suggestion that funds be raised to buy up the debts, take the present company out of bankruptcy and restore it to its stockholders; but so many obstacles have presented themselves to this and similar plans that, after mature deliberation, we are unanimously of the opinion that any proposition to continue the old organization as such would result in failure.

Sail Ships Get Wireless

SEATTLE, WASH., February 19.

OLD CRAFT TO SUMMER IN ALASKA WILL POSSESS PLANTS.

When the famous old sailing vessels *St. Nicholas* and *Reuce*, for many years the pride of the Atlantic, leave the Columbia River for the scene of their summer operations in Alaskan waters, they will be equipped with United wireless apparatus, and capable of commu-

nicating with any of the coastwise or Oriental liners plying the North Pacific.

It will be necessary to install gasoline engines to furnish power for the wireless apparatus.

The *Reuce* and *St. Nicholas* will not only be the only sailing vessels on this Coast equipped with wireless, but will be the only square-riggers in the world having the apparatus aboard. They are owned by the Columbia River Packers' Association, and are operated in connection with the canneries at Chignik and Nushagak, Alaska. The *St. Nicholas* was built at Bath, Maine, in 1869, and the *Reuce* at Kennebunk in 1881.

February 24, 1912.

BULLETIN:

Contract has been closed to-day with the Insular Line for the installation of United Wireless System on the following steamers:

S. S. Borinquen,

S. S. Grayson,

S. S. Harry Luckenbach.

S. S. Borinquen will be equipped prior to her sailing Tuesday next.

Yours very truly,

Trustees in Bankruptcy.

C. C. GALBRAITH.

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COMMON NAUTICAL TERMS

- Longitude Distance directly east or west of the Meridian of Greenwich.
- Altitude Angular distance of the Pole above the horizon.
- Sextant An instrument for measuring a required angle by the manipulation of mirrors.
- Dead Reckoning. A method of finding a ship's approximate position from the course steered and distance run.
- Equinox Equal length of day and night occurring toward the end of March and September.
- Nautical Mile The sixtieth part of a degree. Six knots may be roughly taken as equal to 7 miles.
- Chart A sea map.
- Fathom Six feet.
- Soundings Depth of water in fathoms or feet at low water of spring tides.
- Drift Current... Movement of the surface of the sea.
- Flood-tide Rising tide.
- Ebb-tide Falling tide.
- Spring-tide High-tide caused by the sun and moon being on the meridian together, or in opposition.
- Neap-tide Low-tide caused by the sun and moon being furthest apart.
- Height of Tide.. Difference between level of high-water and that of low-water.
- Age of the Tide. Difference of time between the moon's transit and appearance at the tide.
- Deadlight A covering of wood or metal for a port, used in severe weather.
- Bower Anchor... A working anchor, kept ready for immediate use.
- Sheet Anchor... A spare anchor, reserved for occasions of urgency.
- Log An instrument towed by the vessel, by which the distance sailed is ascertained.
- Log (Logbook). Official daily record of the ship's proceedings.
- Aft (abaft)..... Toward the stern or end of the vessel.
- Forward Toward the bow or front of the vessel.
- Starboard The right-hand side of the ship looking forward.
- Port The left-hand side of the ship looking forward.
- Port State-room window.
- Weather-side ... The side of the ship toward the wind.
- Lee-side The side away from the wind.
- Fore-and-aft ... Lengthwise with the ship.
- Thwartship Crosswise to the ship.
- Mid-ship Toward the middle or "waist" of a ship, equidistant from the bow and astern.
- Poop A raised deck toward the stern.
- Fo'castle The "fore castle"—seamen's quarters.
- Gloryhole Steward's quarters.
- Galley Kitchen.
- Alleyway Passageway.
- Bulkhead Partition.
- Scupper Channel for water.
- Rolling Motion of a ship from side to side.
- Pitching Plunging of a ship's head in the sea, causing up-and-down movement.
- Scending A mixture of rolling and pitching.
- Latitude Distance directly north or south of the Equator.

Lights of Ships

All vessels under way show two side lights, green on the starboard side and red on the port side. Sailing vessels carry no other lights under ordinary conditions, but steamers carry in addition to these two an elevated white light in the foretop. A vessel being overtaken by another shows a white flare light at the stern. Pilot ships on station show a white light at the mast head, and flare lights on deck at frequent intervals.

NEWS OF THE THEATRES

By D. H. RICHARDS.

A Butterfly on the Wheel

Thirty-ninth Street Theatre, 39th Street, near Broadway.—Is undoubtedly the dramatic sensation of the season. The play was written by Messrs. Edward G. Hemmerde and Francis Neilson, two members of the British Parliament. The plot of the play hinges on a divorce case. Peggy, the wife of

The acting of Miss Madge Titheradge in the role of the "Butterfly" is wonderfully realistic in the trial scene, and holds the interest of the audience to the end. The final episodes bring a reconciliation between husband and wife.

Kathryn Kidder, in the *Dramatic Mirror*, tells of meeting Ellen Terry at



"A BUTTERFLY ON THE WHEEL."

the Rt. Hon. George Admaston, M. P., is loved by her husband, but more or less neglected by him owing to his political activities. She finds consolation and amusement in the society of Roderick Collingwood, who, mistaking her attitude, becomes passionately enamored. The husband received an anonymous letter and institutes proceedings for a divorce.

the entrance to the Globe Theatre in London. Miss Terry flung her arms about her, crying: "Fawncy your being here! What's brought you? What has happened since we met in the States?"

"For one thing, I've married," returned Miss Kidder.

"Ah! You've a husband! Dear! Dear!" retorted Miss Terry. "I have several."

Officer 666

At the Gaiety Theatre, Broadway and 46th street, is a melodramatic farce and full of laughs from beginning to finish. A young millionaire leaves his home in New York filled with valuable paintings and statuary, without a caretaker, while he journeyed through Europe. He has a rascally valet of whom he has grown suspicious, and returns suddenly, stopping at a hotel under an assumed name. Here he falls in love with a young and beautiful woman. About this time he finds that someone

George Nash, Mr. Wallace Eddinger and Miss Vivian Martin are the principals of the cast.

"Everywoman"

"Everywoman," at the Herald Square Theatre. The cast of "Everywoman" will be practically the same as during its long run last year, and includes H. Cooper Cliffe, Sarah Cowell Le Moyne, Frederic de Belleville, Patricia Collinge and Henry Wenman. The title character will be played by Adele Blood.



"OFFICER 666."

was masquerading under his name, and about to sell his paintings and elope with his young lady.

He succeeds in securing a police uniform, and sets a trap for his valet. The play is full of ingenious ideas, and complications, and the predicaments of the amateur policeman were plenty, and caused many laughs and surprises. Mr.

The Colonial

Broadway and 62nd street, under the management of Mr. Percy Williams, is giving the public one of the best vaudeville shows in the city. With a complete change each week and with the many attractions presented, great credit must be given to every act on the bill, which are most entertaining.



"BUNTY PULLS THE STRINGS."

Bunty Pulls the Strings

At the Comedy, 41st street just east of Broadway, is one of the big attractions of this season. The play was written by Mr. Graham Moffat who has made himself famous by this Scotch comedy with its reality and humor. The scenes are laid in a small village in Scotland in the year of 1860. A touch of quaintness is given in the awkward costumes that were worn at that time. We see these people in their homes, enjoying their amusements. We go to church with them; yes, a real Scotch Sabbath, and a plot with many domestic entanglements, which Bunty has to straighten out. This play is also now being performed at the Haymarket Theatre in London and drawing crowded houses.

"The Bird of Paradise"

At Maxine Elliott's Theatre, 39th street near Broadway. The steadily increasing patronage given this unusual play of Hawaii assures its manager, Oliver Morosco that it will remain for the balance of the season. The scenic

display is magnificent, and the Hawaiian music has a great charm and it is doubtful if a better cast has been presented this season at any theatre. They are: Laurette Taylor, Pamela Gaythorne, Ida Waterman, Ester Banks, Guy Bates Post, Lewis S. Stone, Theodore Roberts, W. J. Constantine, Robert Harison, Clyde Crawford and Van Rensselaer Townsend.

The Durbar

New York Theatre, Broadway and 45th Street.—The success of these wonderful motion pictures have compelled the Kinemacolor Company to move to a larger house. We would call attention to the cable King George sent his Premier before leaving Bombay: "I am sure you will be glad to know that my highest hopes have been realized. The success of our visit has exceeded all anticipations."

Travel Talks

A new series of illustrated travel talks by Mr. E. M. Newman, is being inaugurated every Sunday evening at Carnegie Hall and on different evenings by means of new motion pictures and color views will take his audience through England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Russian Empire from Black and Baltic Seas, and Germany with views of the famous watering places and large cities.

The Greyhound

At the Astor Theatre, Broadway and 46th Street, the authors of which are Paul Armstrong and Wilson Mizner. This new play is a genuine novelty in many respects. Five of the scenes occur on a transatlantic steamship, showing the hurricane and promenade decks, the grand salon and smoking room. "The Greyhound's" leading character is a kid-glove confidence man and the play is full of thrills and surprises which have characterized other plays by these authors and there is a vivid representation of wireless telegraphy. There are fifty people in the company, among which are Henry Kolker, Elita Proctor Otis, Robert McWade, Jr., Jennie Eustace, Douglas J. Wood and Gladys Murray.

"WHEN I AM KING"

By Virginia Blair

Copyright, 1912, by the American Literary Press.



HESTER looking out upon the whirling flakes, thought of that summer morning long ago, when Rex had sung to the old nursery song:

"Lavender's blue, diddle-diddle,

"Lavender's green,

"When I am King, diddle-diddle,

"You shall be queen!"

She mused sadly on that promise. Somewhere far away, Rex was living in luxury, but he had forgotten the playmate of his boyhood's days—

"When I am king, diddle-diddle,

"You shall be queen—"

She found herself humming the quaint tune as she prepared her frugal supper. She was too tired to toast the bread, so she ate it dry, with a cup of tea. Then she went to bed and lay awake in the moonlight, wondering how she should get through the next day in the weary workroom downtown.

Then, mercifully, sleep came to her, and dreams.

She waked to find the world so white that she seemed in a dream city and wondered if she still slept.

From the regions below her landlady called.

"You can't get downtown. The cars aren't running. You just wait and have breakfast with me."

"O, I can't, thank you," Hester answered over the stair railing, "I must go, if I have to walk."

Mrs. Adams came puffing up to the top floor. "Well you just can't walk, and I am going to bring you up some breakfast. We had griddle cakes this morning, and I'll bake a plate of piping hot ones, and pour out a cup of coffee for you, and you stay in bed and rest for once in your life."

"You are so good," said Hester, gratefully, "but if I don't get down this morning I may lose my place, and then what would I do."

"You know you're welcome to keep your room, honey," said the good wo-

man, "until you get something else to do."

"But I couldn't let you lose money like that," cried Hester; but if ever good fortune comes to me, I'm going to remember you, and we'll share."

As she said it Rex's words again came back to her. "When I am king, you shall be queen."

"I had a friend," she said to Mrs. Adams, who had entered her room and was sitting on the bed, "and he always used to say that when he made his fortune he would come and find me. And yesterday I heard from an old school friend, and she says that Rex is right here in this city, and that an invention of his has brought him half a million, and—and—he's forgotten me."

"Did you love him, dearie?" asked the old landlady, softly.

"Yes. We were engaged when we went to school. But his father and mine were ancient enemies and they broke it off. Then Rex went away to school, and father failed and died, and I had to go to work, and I came to the city—and found you, dear Mrs. Adams."

"Well, if that Rex of yours knew what he was doing," grumbled Mrs. Adams, "he'd be hunting you up. You're too frail to work in all kinds of weather. He won't be finding you at all if he don't look out."

"Oh, I'm not really ill, Mrs. Adams," said Hester, cheerfully, and then she began to dress. "O, I really must go," she said when Mrs. Adams expostulated.

Through the white drifts Hester ploughed her weary way. Her frail body, breasting the wind, seemed beaten back and bruised by the heavy blasts. Her cheeks, pink at first, with the sharpness of the cold, grew white, and her lips were blue.

"I'm afraid I can't go on," she said to herself.

A policeman at the corner helped her over a drift. "You'd better go in-

to a drug store and get something hot, miss," he advised. "You look as if you were half frozen."

Hester tried to laugh. "I shall get on all right," she said, and was too proud to tell him that she dared not spend ten cents.

She struggled on for a half dozen blocks, and saw ahead of her only a weary waste of snow. Far downtown they were probably clearing the sidewalks, but out in this residential section no attack was being made on the drifts.

Hester turned from the side street into a wide avenue, lined on each side by brownstone mansions. Here she found the walking better, and shivering, breathless, she sped on her way.

"If it only wasn't so far," she said to herself, desperately. She stopped for a moment to fasten her coat more closely about her. A red limousine stood at the curbstone and a chauffeur in a fur cape and gloves waited for the man who was descending the steps of an imposing mansion.

Hester gave one look from man to master, then fled, stumbling, gasping.

"It was Rex," she said to her heart, wildly. "O, he mustn't see me, he mustn't see me."

But he had seen her. "Hester! Hester!" he was calling.

She would not turn back. She felt consumed with shame that he should see her thus.

But he was beside her, eager, expostulating.

"Hester, dear girl," he said with his hand on her arm, and she stopped and turned to him, and when she saw the frankly adoring look in his eyes she broke down and cried.

"You poor little thing, you poor little thing," he said. At last I have found you."

He made her lean on his arm.

"I'm going to take you home," said Rex, briefly, "but first we've got to get something to warm you up. I can't invite you in there," with a nod of his head toward the house, "because it's a man's club. But there's a tea room at the corner."

Hester ate little. It was enough for her to bask in the comfort of Rex's presence, and the color came back to

her cheeks and the light into her eyes, as he talked to her.

"I've hunted everywhere for you," he said. "Nobody seemed to know your address. They told me you were in New York and that was all."

"I wouldn't let anyone know," said Hester. "I told her to tell you."

"Vera?" he asked, and as she nodded she saw his eyes grow hard, but it was not until long after that he told her that her trusted school friend had tried to win him for herself, and that she had withheld the address of his former sweetheart.

Kind Mrs. Adams, deep in the mysteries of Friday's cleaning, was startled by the sound of an automobile horn at the front door.

Hester came in beaming.

"It's Rex," she said, "and Rex, this is dear Mrs. Adams. She has been so kind to me."

It was a wonderful talk that followed. Rex insisted that tired, economical Mrs. Adams should give up her poor old lodging house and come and be housekeeper for himself and Hester. He intended to buy a big country place, he said, and there would be many servants to manage. Did Mrs. Adams think she could?

And Mrs. Adams wept tears of joy.

"I told you you should be queen,"

Rex said to Hester that night, "and while I can't give you a real throne, dearest, you shall reign in my heart forever."

Literal

A French evangelist, who knew very little English was fond, none the less, of speaking publicly in the unfamiliar tongue. One Sunday he was exhorting a congregation composed chiefly of Americans and English and startled his hearers by launching forth into a prayer ending with,

"And now good Lord, we pray thee to protect and pickle us all the rest of our lives."

When the service was over the ambitious linguist's attention was called to his expression, "pickle us."

"Well, what would you?" said he "Is it not the same, to preserve and to pickle?"

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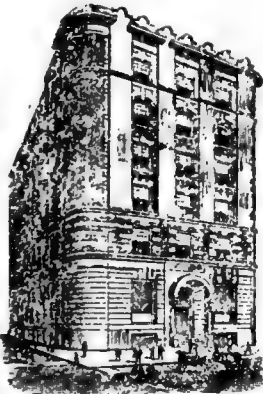
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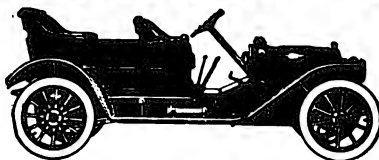
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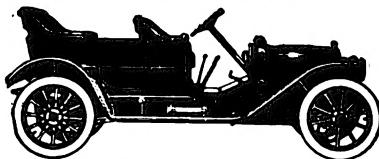
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